### CITY OF RICHMOND

P.O. Box 250 – 239 W. Main St. Richmond, KY 40476 www.richmond.ky.us

President David McFaddin Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, KY 40475

April 9, 2021

Dear President McFaddin,

Eastern Kentucky University's proposed Center for STEM-H Excellence is an exciting initiative that I support for consideration through the Community Project Funding program

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will positively impact our community by encouraging and supporting students to pursue STEM-H degrees and by ensuring these students graduate with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to productively contribute to Kentucky's workforce and economic vitality.

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will ensure students seeking a STEM-H degree have access to tutoring, skill-building workshops, training programs, and mentored research experiences. Additionally, this initiative enables substantial upgrades to EKU's STEM-H laboratory equipment and instrumentation, ensuring that EKU graduates are ready to put their knowledge into practice in a workforce setting after graduation.

I am aware of EKU's history of supporting student success initiatives. EKU's Noel Studio provides campus-wide support for students in writing and communication. EKU's Bratzke Student-Athlete Academic Success Center serves more than 300 student athletes by providing computer labs, mentoring, tutoring, study hall, and academic advising support. Similarly, The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will function in that same spirit, not only serving students majoring in STEM-H fields, but any student on campus that requires developing-to-advanced assistance in STEM-H disciplines.



I have no doubt that the Richmond community will benefit from EKU's ability to produce more STEM-H graduates, which in turn will create a higher quality workforce in and around Richmond. As we work to attract new business to our city, an educated, improved workforce will make Richmond a better place to live, work, and play.

Sincerely,

**Robert Blythe** 

Mayor



Madison County Fiscal Court 135 W. Irvine Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Richmond, KY 40475 859-624-4700 www.madisoncountyky.us

President David McFaddin Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, KY 40475

April 16, 2021

Dear President McFaddin,

Eastern Kentucky University's proposed Center for STEM-H Excellence is an exciting initiative that I support for consideration through the Community Project Funding program.

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will positively impact our community by encouraging and supporting students to pursue STEM-H degrees and by ensuring these students graduate with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to productively contribute to Kentucky's workforce and economic vitality.

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I am aware of EKU's history of supporting student success initiatives. EKU's Noel Studio provides campus-wide support for students in writing and communication. EKU's Bratzke Student-Athlete Academic Success Center serves more than 300 student athletes by providing computer labs, mentoring, tutoring, study hall, and academic advising support. Similarly, The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will function in that same spirit, not only serving students majoring in STEM-H fields, but any student on campus that requires developing-to-advanced assistance in STEM-H disciplines.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Health are all a vital part of our local economy in the recruiting industry. These types of skills allow for more white-collar jobs; which in turn allows for economic diversity in Madison County. Producing more STEM-H graduates will give employers an opportunity to hire knowledgeable employees with valuable hands-on experience. STEM-H graduates will have the ability to use those skills while giving back to the community.

Sincerely,

Reagan Taylor

R7-30

Madison County Judge Executive

# Commonwealth of Kentucky

### House of Representatives

P. O BOX 248 Richmond, Kentucky 40476

Deanna.Frazier@lrc.ky.gov



State Capital Annex Room 405 C 702 Capitol Avenue Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 1-800-372-7181 (502) 564-8100 Ext. 661

**Deanna Frazier**State Representative District 81

April 9, 2021

President David McFaddin Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, KY 40475

Dear President McFaddin:

Eastern Kentucky University's proposed Center for STEM-H Excellence is an exciting initiative that I support for consideration through the Community Project Funding program.

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will positively impact our community by encouraging and supporting students to pursue STEM-H degrees and by ensuring these students graduate with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to productively contribute to Kentucky's workforce and economic vitality.

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will ensure students seeking a STEM-H degree have access to tutoring, skill-building workshops, training programs, and mentored research experiences. Additionally, this initiative enables substantial upgrades to EKU's STEM-H laboratory equipment and instrumentation, ensuring that EKU graduates are ready to put their knowledge into practice in a workforce setting after graduation.

I am aware of EKU's history of supporting student success initiatives. EKU's Noel Studio provides campus-wide support for students in writing and communication. EKU's Bratzke Student-Athlete Academic Success Center serves more than 300 student athletes by providing computer labs,

President David McFaddin Page 2 April 9, 2021

mentoring, tutoring, study hall, and academic advising support. Similarly, The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will function in that same spirit, not only serving students majoring in STEM-H fields, but any student on campus that requires developing-to-advanced assistance in STEM-H disciplines.

This program will no doubt create more people who are trained to fill in-demand jobs in STEM-H areas. This will also create a more prepared workforce in our community and help attract potential employers to locate here, particularly those who need workers in the areas of science, technology, engineering, math, and healthcare. As you know, students in those fields are highly likely to be gainfully employed after graduation. I am in full support of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Deanna Frazier State Representative

Deanna L. Frazier

81st District

DF/sd

## Commonwealth of Kentucky

#### **STATE SENATE**

P.O. Box 100 Berea, KY 40403 jared.carpenter@lrc.ky.gov



State Capitol Annex Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 (800) 372-7181 (502) 564-8100 Ext. 730 Fax (502) 564-6543

April 9, 2021

Mr. David McFaddin, President Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, Kentucky 40475

Dear President McFaddin:

Eastern Kentucky University's proposed Center for STEM-H Excellence is an exciting initiative that I support for consideration through the Community Project Funding program.

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at Eastern Kentucky University will positively impact our community by encouraging and supporting students to pursue STEM-H degrees and by ensuring these students graduate with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to productively contribute to Kentucky's workforce and economic vitality.

This opportunity will ensure students seeking a STEM-H degree have access to tutoring, skill-building workshops, training programs, and mentored research experiences. Additionally, this initiative enables substantial upgrades to the university's STEM-H laboratory equipment and instrumentation, ensuring that the graduates are ready to put their knowledge into practice in a workforce setting after graduation.

I am aware of Eastern Kentucky University's history of supporting student success initiatives. The Noel Studio provides campus-wide support for students in writing and communication. Also, the Bratzke Student-Athlete Academic Success Center serves more than 300 student athletes by providing computer labs, mentoring, tutoring, study hall, and academic advising support. Similarly, The Center for STEM-H Excellence will function in that same spirit, not only serving students majoring in STEM-H fields, but any student on campus that requires developing-to-advanced assistance in STEM-H disciplines.

Mr. David McFaddin, President Page 2 April 9, 2021

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. I look forward to the potential job growth and economic development possibilities that the STEM-H graduates could afford. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jared Carpenter State Senator

JC/kl



President David McFaddin Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, KY 40475

April 9, 2021

Dear President McFaddin,

Eastern Kentucky University's proposed Center for STEM-H Excellence is an exciting initiative that I strongly support for consideration through the Community Project Funding program

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will positively impact our community by encouraging and supporting students to pursue STEM-H degrees and by ensuring these students graduate with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to productively contribute to Kentucky's workforce and economic vitality.

As a Hospital President, I am amazed at the speed of disruption occurring in our industry. And this disruption, while absolutely essential to improving the health of our country, is largely coming from innovative STEM-H thinking outside of traditional healthcare. If we are going to truly transform healthcare, STEM-H must be a priority as it is critical to driving the creativity and innovation needed to improve health and access to care not only in Kentucky, but our country.

I am aware of EKU's history of supporting student success initiatives. EKU's Noel Studio provides campus-wide support for students in writing and communication. EKU's Bratzke Student-Athlete Academic Success Center serves more than 300 student athletes by providing computer labs, mentoring, tutoring, study hall, and academic advising support. Similarly, The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will function in that same spirit, not only serving students majoring in STEM-H fields, but any student on campus that requires developing-to-advanced assistance in STEM-H disciplines.

I wish you the very best.

With much gratitude,

Greg D. Gerard President



60 Mercy Court Irvine, KY 40336 606-723-2115 Fax 606-723-2951

President David McFaddin Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, KY 40475

April 12, 2021

Dear President McFaddin,

Eastern Kentucky University's proposed Center for STEM-H Excellence is an exciting initiative that I support for consideration through the Community Project Funding program

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will positively impact our community by encouraging and supporting students to pursue STEM-H degrees and by ensuring these students graduate with the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed to productively contribute to Kentucky's workforce and economic vitality.

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I am aware of EKU's history of supporting student success initiatives. EKU's Noel Studio provides campus-wide support for students in writing and communication. EKU's Bratzke Student-Athlete Academic Success Center serves more than 300 student athletes by providing computer labs, mentoring, tutoring, study hall, and academic advising support. Similarly, The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will function in that same spirit, not only serving students majoring in STEM-H fields, but any student on campus that requires developing-to-advanced assistance in STEM-H disciplines.

Access to the STEM-H Center could create potential employment opportunities for members of our community at Marcum and Wallace Hospital. An important economic development tool for community growth is a prepared workforce. The STEM-H Center will enable more people to work, improve their financial position and contribute in a greater way to their family and community.

Sincerely.

Trena Stocker, President

Mercy Health - Marcum and Wallace Hospital

Irena & Stacker

President David McFaddin Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, KY 40475

April 9, 2021

Dear President McFaddin,

Eastern Kentucky University's proposed Center for STEM-H Excellence is an exciting initiative that I support, for consideration through the Community Project Funding program. As the owner of Starshine Energy - a photoelectric utility providing clean energy to Eastern Kentucky – I know that the next generation of scientists will be important to improve the economy, health, and standard of living for the communities in which Starshine serves. In fact, the solar installation Starshine Energy has just completed on the EKU campus is designed to facilitate future STEM related projects in the field of alternative energy.

The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will ensure that students seeking a STEM-H degree have access to tutoring, skill-building workshops, training programs, and mentored research experiences. This helps every student – from the incoming freshman to the juniors and seniors competing for admission to the country's best graduate schools. Additionally, this initiative enables substantial upgrades to EKU's STEM-H laboratory equipment and instrumentation, ensuring that EKU graduates are ready to compete at the cutting-edge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce.

I am aware of EKU's history of supporting student success initiatives – and have personally been engaged in those efforts since I retired from my position as Vice President for Research and Development at Procter & Gamble. There are precedents: EKU's Noel Studio provides campus-wide support for students in writing and communication and EKU's Bratzke Student-Athlete Academic Success Center serves more than 300 student athletes by providing computer labs, mentoring, tutoring, study hall, and academic advising support. The Center for STEM-H Excellence at EKU will function in that same spirit, not only serving students majoring in STEM-H fields, but any student on campus that requires developing-to-advanced assistance in STEM-H disciplines.

Importantly, the Center for STEM-H Excellence will also serve as a vehicle for increased alumni engagement. Our STEM-H alumni have much to offer in tutoring, mentoring, entrepreneurial training and scholarships.

Sincerely,

Gary Booth, Ph.D. Founder and CEO Starshine Energy



President David McFaddin Eastern Kentucky University 521 Lancaster Avenue Richmond, KY 40475

April 12, 2021

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Within the business community in Richmond qualified graduates of Eastern Kentucky University specifically in the STEM-H fields help advance the workforce and quality of service for people living in the area. Whether they are in the healthcare system working for places like Baptist Health Richmond, local engineering companies, or accounting firms the work each graduate contributes to Madison County helps make it a better place for people to live and a place full of growth and potential.

Sincerely, Mendi Yoble

Mendi Goble President/CEO